

1 Project Vision, Goals and Objectives

The Waukesha Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Plan (“Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Plan”) builds on past and on-going efforts by the City of Waukesha to enhance transportation options and improve the quality of life. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Plan, which will be adopted as part of the city’s planning efforts, will guide the development of a network of bicycle and pedestrian routes that link activity centers within the city and provide opportunities for connections to surrounding areas. This network will not only make bicycling and walking more viable modes of transportation, but it will contribute to an enhanced quality of life in the community and provide economic development opportunities.

Throughout this plan, the term “pedestrian” refers to a person moving from place to place, either on foot and/or with the use of an assistive mobility device (when that person has a disability and/or medical condition). “Walking” or “to walk” are the terms used to describe the movement of a pedestrian.

Similarly, the term “bicyclist” refers to a person moving from place to place using a bicycle or similar human-powered vehicle like a tandem bicycle, tricycle, recumbent bicycle, etc. “Bicycling” and “to bicycle/to bike” are terms used to describe the movement of a person operating a bicycle.

1.1 Vision, Goals and Objectives

1.1.1 Vision

The City of Waukesha will enhance transportation choices by developing a network of on-street and off-street bicycle and pedestrian facilities that provide connections to destinations throughout the city and will work with partners to educate the public about biking and walking as well as encourage biking and walking for transportation and recreational trips.



1.1.2 Goals & Objectives

Goal 1. Support bicycling and walking as viable transportation modes in Waukesha.

Objective 1.1. Implement the Waukesha Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Plan recommendations to provide bicycling and walking routes to key destinations.

Action 1. Complete the high-priority bikeway network and sidewalk gap projects in the next five years (2011 – 2015).

Benchmark: Miles of new bikeways and sidewalks completed; percentage of high-priority projects identified in the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Plan completed.

Action 2. Complete the medium-priority projects within the next 20 years (2011 – 2030).

Benchmark: Miles of new bikeways and sidewalks completed; percentage of medium-priority projects identified in the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Plan completed.

Objective 1.2. Seek new funding sources and strategies to reduce the financial impact on the City.

Action 1. In the case where grant requirements or construction as part of another project make construction of a lower priority project possible or required by law, pursue funding for that project regardless of priority.

Benchmark: Proportion of transportation facility reconstruction and construction projects that include bicycle and/or pedestrian improvements.

Action 2. Seek funding for bicycle and pedestrian transportation projects through grant opportunities.

Benchmark: Number of grants applied for and received; amount of grant funding acquired.

Objective 1.3. Improve bicyclists' and pedestrians' safety and comfort by accommodating these modes during construction or facility repair activities.

Action 1. Minimize disruption to bicycle and pedestrian travel by providing alternate routes during construction or repair activities.

Benchmark: Development of guidelines/policies for providing bicycle and pedestrian access through or around construction zones.

Objective 1.4. Maintain existing and future bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

Action 1. Formalize the process for regular maintenance of bicycle and pedestrian related trails for pavement markings such as cross walks, bike lanes stripes and symbols and shared lane markings.

Benchmark: Development of a planned maintenance schedule for trails and for pavement markings and yearly appraisal of completed work.

Goal 2. Promote bicycling and walking in the Waukesha by improving awareness of bicycle and pedestrian facilities and opportunities.

Objective 2.1. Improve public awareness of the on-street bicycle network and presence of bicyclists.

Action 1. Install signs along all local and regional bikeways to assist with wayfinding and to increase awareness of bicyclists by motorists.

Benchmark: Development of a wayfinding signage plan and implementation goals.

Action 2. Make bicycling and walking resources available through the City of Waukesha website.

Benchmark: Development of a map and biking/walking guide to Waukesha as well as web content for the City of Waukesha's website providing information about walking and bicycling; frequency of page views.

Action 3. Increase action by law enforcement officers in regards to bicycle- and pedestrian-related violations by motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

Benchmark: Number of informational warnings and citations issued related to bicyclists or pedestrians; number of crashes involving bicyclists or pedestrians.

Objective 2.2. Support education and encouragement efforts in the city.

Action 1. Apply to become a Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) through the League of American Bicyclists' award program.

Benchmark: Completed BFC application; goal of initial recognition at the bronze level with a target of obtaining gold level recognition.

Action 2. Convene a standing Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee (PBAC) to focus on Plan implementation and obtaining funding for bicycle and pedestrian projects and programs.

Benchmark: Appointment of a PBAC; at least four meetings each year.

Goal 3. Integrate bicycle and pedestrian planning into Waukesha's Planning Processes.

Objective 3.1. Institutionalize bicycle and pedestrian planning into Waukesha Planning and Engineering department plans.

Action 1. Review and update the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Plan project and program priorities every two years, update of the entire plan every five years.

Benchmark: Revised project priorities list every two years.

Action 2. Assign bicycle /pedestrian coordinator duties to an existing staff in each of the following City departments; City Administration, Community Development, Human Resources, Parks/Recreation and Forestry, Public Works, Police and Transit.

Benchmark: Staff is assigned and begin duties.

Action 3. Adopt a Complete Streets policy to consider the needs of pedestrians and bicyclists in new development and roadway reconstruction.

Benchmark: Adopted Complete Streets Policy.

Objective 3.2 Pursue ideal linkage of existing primary trail systems and promote a high level of connectivity to the Downtown/Central Areas from these trails

Action 1. Develop bicycle and pedestrian wayfinding signage to clearly direct bicyclists and pedestrians along bikeways and trails through Downtown Waukesha.

Action 2. Conduct a feasibility study of the proposed connections between the Glacial Drumlin Trail and the New Berlin Trail and between these trails and downtown.

Benchmark: Complete the feasibility study and begin implementation of connections.